

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 IO-13 OMB-01 CPR-01 AID-05 PC-01 /078 W
-----129689 081312Z /53

R 081030Z NOV 77

FM AMEMBASSY DACCA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6962
INFO AMCONSUL CALCUTTA
AMEMBASSY COLOMBO
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
CINCPAC

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PBOR, BG, IN
SUBJ: FARAKKA AGREEMENT SIGNED

REF: DACCA 6338

1. THE FARAKKA AGREEMENT ON THE SHARING OF THE GANGES
WATERS WAS SIGNED IN DACCA NOVEMBER 5 BY REAR ADMIRAL
M.H. KHAN, CHIEF OF NAVAL STAFF AND DCMLA, AND SURJIT
SINGH BARNALA, INDIAN MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE AOX
IRRIGATION. AFTER THE SIGNING, BOTH KHAN AND BARNALA
SAID THAT THE AGREEMENT HAD BEEN POSSIBLE BECAUSE OF THE
MUTUAL ACCOMMODATION AND UNDERSTANDING SHOWN BY THE TWO
COUNTRIES AND THE WILLINGNESS OF EACH TO MAKE SACRIFICES
FOR THE OTHER.

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2. THE TEXT OF THE AGREEMENT, AVAILABLE IN ENGLISH,
HINDI AND BENGALI, WAS PUBLISHED IN THE DACCA PRESS
OCTOBER 6. THE FULL TEXT IS BEING POUCED BY AIRGRAM.
FOLLOWING ARE A FEW OF THE MAIN POINTS OF THE AGREEMENT:

A. BANGLADESH WILL RECEIVE 34,500 CUSECS AND INDIA
WILL RECEIVE 20,500 CUSECS DURING THE 10-DW TDANEST

PERIOD OF THE DRY SEASON, APRIL 21 TO APRIL 30, WHEN
55,000 CUSECS ARE AVAILABLE;

B. THE SHARING OF THE GANGES WATER WILL LAST FROM
JANUARY 0D TOMAY 31 EACH YEAR. INDIA WILL RELEASE
SPECIFIED QUANTITIES OF WATER TO BANGLADESH FROM FARAKKA
AT 10-DAY PERIODS;

C. THE AGREEMENT WILL REMAIN IN FORCE FOR FIVE YEARS,
IT CAN BE EXTENDED BY MUTUAL AGREEMENT AND IT WILL BE
REVIEWED AT THE END OF THREE YEARS;

D. A JOINT COMMITTEE SHALL SET UP TEAMS TO BE
STATIONED AT FARAKKA BARRAGE AND HARDINGE BRIDGE TO RECORD
THE DAILY FLOWS. THE COMMITTEE WILL ALSO EXAMINE ANY
DISPUTES IN THE I PLEMENTATION OF THE AGREEMENT.

D. THE INDO-BANGLADESH JOINT RIVERS COMMISSION,
ESTABLISHED IN 1972, WILL INVESTIGATE A LONG-MERM SOLUTION
TO THE AUGMENTATION OF THE DRY SEASON GANGES WATER FLOW.
A REPORT WILL BE PRESENTED WITHIN THREE YEARS.

3. INITIAL EDITORIAL REACTION HAS BEEN FAVORABLE. (ALL
NEWSPAPERS HAVE NOT COMMENTED YET ON THE AGREEMENT AS NO
NEWSPAPERS WERE PUBLISHED NOVEMBER 8, FOLLOWING THE
HOLIDAY FOR THE SECOND ANNIVERSARY OF GENERAL ZIA'S
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RNASSUMPTION OF POWER.) THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER, THE
LARGEST ENGLISH-LANGUAGE DAILY, SAID THAT THE AGREEMENT
"HAS AT LAST CUT THE GORDIAN KNOT OF THE ISSUE THAT
DRAGGED THE TWO COUNTRIES INTO DISPUTE FOR THE LAST
TWENTY-FIVE YEARS." THE EDITORIAL CONCLUDED WITH THE
HOPE THAT THE SPIRIT OF COOPERATION WHICH BROUGHT THE
ACCORD WILL ALSO ENABLE A LONG-TERM SOLUTION TO BE FOUND.
NONE OF THE BENGALI-LANGUAGE NEWSPAPERS HAVE YET COMMENTED.
BERGESEN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AGREEMENTS, WATER RIGHTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 08-Nov-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977DACCA06446
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770412-0234
Format: TEL
From: DACCA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19771185/aaaacunv.tel
Line Count: 103
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: e330d51f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 DACCA 6338
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 678786
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FARAKKA AGREEMENT SIGNED
TAGS: PBOR, BG, IN
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/e330d51f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009